

Veterans Day 2013

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Veterans Day is an official United States holiday observed on November 11, which honors people who have served in the armed forces, also known as veterans. It is a holiday that closely associates with other holidays such as Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, which are celebrated in other parts of the world, and also marks the anniversary of the end of World War I (which formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect). The Treaty of Versailles that officially ended the war was signed seven months later on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles, France.

One of the greatest honors paid to veterans occurs during the National Veterans Day Ceremony held in Washington, DC on November 11 at Arlington National Cemetery. The ceremony commences precisely at 11 a.m. with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Inside the Memorial Amphitheater, a parade of colors presented by veterans' organizations and remarks from dignitaries complete the day. This ceremony reminds us that the saying "All Gave Some, Some Gave All" truly reflects the importance of the sacrifices made by great men and women to ensure America remains the land of the free.

It is sometimes hard to reconcile the thought of war, but this quote makes an attempt to point out why: "This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave."
- Elmer Davis

The Mid-Pacific Region has 300 veterans who have served in the United States armed forces and were lucky enough to return home to enjoy the fruits of their labor.



The Official 2013 Veterans Day Poster

Veterans deserve the acknowledgement given them for their dedication to country and duty. We would be remiss if recognition was not shared with veterans' family members for their dedication and patience given in love and support while their military member was in harms way.

If you know a veteran, please take a moment to give them an appreciative nod and a "thank you" for their service this coming Veterans Day.

Though it is not known who said it, the truest words ever spoken about war and freedom are: "Freedom is never free." - Author Unknown

For additional information about Veterans Day, please visit www.va.gov.